

Checklist: preparing for patient safety during equipment prescription

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| <p>1. Description of patient and environment within occupational framework (social/medical history): Completes initial assessment. Discusses with client relevant information to gain insight to client's needs and current status. Identification of details such as home environment and suitability for equipment and whether equipment might be needed long term or short term given nature of diagnosis or presenting problem.</p> | |
| <p>2. Demands of the activity/activity analysis: Explains rationale for occupational therapy intervention, performance and environmental requirements e.g. lifting, bending, reaching and toilet heights, flooring etc. This information may be gained through discussion with client or observation of certain tasks for example transfers, use of certain equipment etc.</p> | |
| <p>3. Problem Identification: Identifies why the person cannot currently perform the activity, for example, lower limb weakness, reduced confidence, etc.</p> | |
| <p>4. Awareness of compensatory strategies to adapt the environment: Considers principles of adaptation, for example, provide higher surface for transfer, move objects within reach.</p> | |
| <p>5. Propose strategies for the person: Creatively considers ways that strategies/principles of adaptation can be applied to the activity to enable the person to do it.</p> | |
| <p>6. Knowledge of resources for implementing the solution: Knows what reliable and safe equipment is available.</p> | |
| <p>7. Check equipment for durability, reliability and safety: Ensures equipment to be trialed is reliable, clean, and safe to use.</p> | |
| <p>8. Conducting Assessment: Set-up Clinician sets up equipment to client's needs (e.g. height, width, etc). Clinician makes sure circulation space is sufficient to trial equipment. Clinician has a good understanding of the client's current status and ability to trial equipment. Clinician arranges additional clinician to assist with transfers if required. Provides appropriate distance between client and equipment for transfers. Ensures client is comfortable and confident to trial equipment.</p> | |
| <p>9. Conducting Assessment: Prescription Trials a variety of models of same piece of equipment. Customises or prescribes equipment to suit client's specific needs. Considers whether equipment meets short term or long term needs of the client.</p> | |
| <p>10. Training/Education Trains client/carer in the safe use of the equipment and provides appropriate written/verbal information.</p> | |